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from the hyphal wall. The opening is finally completely closed, and at the center an excess of material is deposited, giving rise to a papilla-like structure described as a "canal" by LÉGER. During this process the wall between the two gametangia is resorbed. The line of contact between the two protoplasmic bodies remains distinct for some time, owing to the presence between them of the granular material mentioned above, but finally the masses fuse. Multiple nuclear fusions appear to occur at this stage. The nuclei which fail to fuse are smaller than the fusion nuclei, and soon disintegrate. No evidence of a uninucleate stage was observed. At this time numerous oil bodies, which are regarded as being of the same nature as the elaioplasts of higher plants, appear in the protoplasm. These bodies fuse until two or three large ones are formed. The large elaioplast-like bodies the author believes to be the "sphère embryonnaires" of LÉGER.—H. HASSELBRING.

Proceedings of the National Academy.—This new monthly publication began to appear with the January issue of 1915. In addition to the reports and announcements that belong to it naturally, as the official organ of publication of the National Academy, it will also serve as a medium for the prompt publication of brief original papers by members of the Academy and other American investigators. The papers will be much shorter and less detailed than those published in the special journals, and the aim of the *Proceedings* is to secure promptness of publication and wide circulation of the results of American research among foreign investigators. The editorial board includes a representative from each one of the special fields of science, the editor of the BOTANICAL GAZETTE being the botanical representative on the editorial board of the *Proceedings*.

The first two numbers contain the following botanical papers: *Phoradendron*, by WILLIAM TRELEASE (Proc. Nat. Acad. 1:30-35. 1915); The morphology and relationships of *Podomitrium malaccense*, by DOUGLAS H. CAMPBELL (*ibid.*, 36, 37); and A phylogenetic study of cycads, by CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN (*ibid.* 86-90). In addition to these papers that are credited to the section of botany, certain papers in genetics, physiology, and chemistry come well within the scope of present botanical interest. For example, the paper by E. M. EAST, entitled An interpretation of self-sterility (*ibid.* 95-100), deals with an interesting problem of genetics among plants.—J. M. C.

Evolution of the flower.—HORNE²⁷ has contributed a very detailed study of the structures of the flower which he regards as indicators of phylogeny. The families specially studied are the Hamamelidaceae, Caprifoliaceae, and Cornaceae, but the principles involved have general application. He includes in his discussion also the possible applications of the various theories of evolu-

²⁷ HORNE, A. S., A contribution to the study of the evolution of the flower, with special reference to the Hamamelidaceae, Caprifoliaceae, and Cornaceae. Trans. Linn. Soc. London II Bot. 8:239-309. pls. 28-30. figs. 13. 1914. .